

William M. Audet (CA 117456)
Adel A. Nadji (CA 232599)
AUDET & PARTNERS, LLP
221 Main Street, Suite 1460
San Francisco, CA 94105
Telephone: 415.568.2555
Facsimile: 415.568.2556

T. Joseph Snodgrass, Pro Hac Vice
Shawn M. Raiter, Pro Hac Vice
Kelly A. Swanson, Pro Hac Vice
LARSON KING, LLP
30 E. 7th Street, Suite 2800
Saint Paul, MN 55101
Telephone: 651-312-6500
Facsimile: 651-312-6618

*Attorneys for Plaintiffs and
The Class Members*

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
OAKLAND DIVISION**

MONTE RUSSELL and DANIEL FRIEDMAN,
on behalf of themselves and others similarly
situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

WELLS FARGO AND COMPANY and WELLS
FARGO BANK, N.A.

Defendants.

Case No. C-07-3993-CW

**JOINT CASE MANAGEMENT
STATEMENT**

Plaintiffs, Monte Russell and Daniel Friedman, and Defendants, Wells Fargo &
Co. and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., hereby submit this Joint Case Management Statement.

1. Jurisdiction And Service

Plaintiffs' claims arise under the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C.

1 Section 216. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' claims pursuant to 28
2 U.S.C. Section 1331. Plaintiffs contend that the Court also has original jurisdiction under the
3 Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. Section 1332, because this is a class action in which (1)
4 there are 100 or more members in the proposed Class; (2) at least some members of the proposed
5 Class have a different citizenship from Defendant; and (3) the claims of the proposed Class
6 Members exceed \$5,000,000 in the aggregate. Plaintiffs contend that the Court also has
7 supplemental jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. Section 1367 over Plaintiffs' state law claims, because
8 those claims derive from a common nucleus of operative fact. Defendants disagree with
9 Plaintiffs' contentions.

11 All parties have been served. No questions exist regarding personal jurisdiction.
12 No questions exist regarding venue.

14 **2. Facts**

15 Plaintiffs allege that Monte Russell and Daniel Friedman were employed by
16 Defendants Wells Fargo & Co. and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. ("Wells Fargo") as Technology
17 Information Group ("TIG") employees with the job title "PC/LAN Engineer." Defendants
18 contend that only Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., was the employer of Plaintiffs. Plaintiffs allege that
19 their primary duties were to provide computer support to Wells Fargo. Plaintiffs allege that Wells
20 Fargo misclassified Plaintiffs' job positions as exempt from the overtime requirements of the
21 FLSA. Defendants contend that Plaintiffs were properly classified as exempt from the overtime
22 requirements of the FLSA.

24 Plaintiffs brought this action on behalf of themselves and all persons (hereinafter
25 "FLSA Employees") who were employed by Wells Fargo as TIG employees, who held the
26 position of PC/LAN Engineer 3, PC/LAN Engineer 4, or PC/LAN Engineer 5, and who were paid
27 a salary and treated as exempt from the laws requiring overtime for some period of time after
28

1 November 1, 2004 through the date of the final disposition of this action (the “FLSA Period”).
2 To date, twenty-three (23) current and former employees (collectively referred to as “Opt-In
3 Plaintiffs”) have agreed to join this action as party plaintiffs under the FLSA.

4 Plaintiff Friedman also brings this action on behalf of himself and all persons
5 (hereinafter the “California Class”) who were employed by Wells Fargo in California as PC/LAN
6 Engineers 3, 4, or 5, and who were paid a salary and treated as exempt from California laws
7 requiring overtime at any time within the four years prior to the filing of the Amended Complaint
8 through the date of the final disposition of this action (the “California Class Period”).

9
10 Plaintiffs allege that Wells Fargo unlawfully classified them, the FLSA
11 Employees, and the California Class members as exempt from overtime pay provisions under the
12 FLSA and California wage and hour laws. Plaintiffs further allege that Plaintiffs, the FLSA
13 Employees, and members of the California Class worked overtime or on-call hours and are and
14 have been entitled to premium compensation of one and one-half times the regular hourly rate
15 (“overtime compensation”) for those hours. Further, Plaintiff Friedman alleges that he and
16 members of the California Class are and have been entitled to overtime compensation at one and
17 one-half times the hourly rate for hours worked between eight and twelve in a day, and at twice
18 the regular rate for overtime hours over twelve in a day. Finally, Plaintiffs allege that the
19 foregoing violations were willful and that Wells Fargo failed to keep time records as required by
20 federal and state laws.

21
22 Defendant Wells Fargo generally denies Plaintiffs’ allegations.

23
24 **3. Legal Issues**

25 This case will include numerous disputed points of law, including the following
26 legal issues:
27
28

1 • Whether Plaintiffs and other Wells Fargo employees who held the position
2 of PC/LAN Engineer 3, PC/LAN Engineer 4, or PC/LAN Engineer 5, are exempt from the
3 FLSA's overtime requirements;

4 • Whether Defendants have failed to make, keep, and preserve records with
5 respect to each of its employees sufficient to determine their wages, hours, and other conditions
6 and practice of employment, in violation of 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 et. seq., including 29 U.S.C. §
7 211(c) and § 216(b);

8 • Whether there is a private right of action for violation of the recordkeeping
9 provisions of the FLSA;

10 • Whether Defendants' failure to pay overtime was "willful" within the
11 meaning of Section 6(a) of the Portal-to-Portal Pay Act, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 255(a), because
12 Defendants did not act in good faith in failing to pay proper overtime pay, and had no reason to
13 believe that its failure to do so was not a violation of the FLSA, within the meaning of Section 11
14 of the Portal-to-Portal Pay Act, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 260;

15 • Whether Plaintiffs and the FLSA Employees are entitled to liquidated
16 damages pursuant to Section 16(b) of the FLSA;

17 • Whether reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, pursuant to Section 16(b) of
18 the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), should be awarded to Plaintiffs;

19 • Whether Plaintiff Friedman and other Wells Fargo employees who held the
20 position of PC/LAN Engineer 3, PC/LAN Engineer 4, or PC/LAN Engineer 5, are exempt from
21 the overtime requirements of California state law;

22 • Whether reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, pursuant to Cal. Labor Code
23 § 1194(a), should be awarded to Plaintiffs;

24 • Whether Defendants failed to maintain records of hours worked by
25 Plaintiff Friedman and members of the California Class as required by Cal. Labor Code §
26 1174(d);

27 • Whether Defendants knowingly and intentionally failed to provide timely,
28 accurate, itemized wage statements including, *inter alia*, hours worked, to Plaintiff Friedman and

1 members of the California Class in accordance with Cal. Labor Code § 226(a) and applicable
2 IWC Wage Orders;

3 • Whether Plaintiff Friedman and members of the California Class are
4 entitled to injunctive relief requiring Defendants to comply with Labor Code §§ 226(a) and
5 1174(d);

6 • Whether Plaintiffs can maintain a Labor Code Section 226 claim and
7 whether Plaintiffs have experienced actual injury as a result of the alleged violation of Labor
8 Code Section 226;

9 • Whether Plaintiff Friedman and members of the California Class are
10 entitled to penalties under Labor Code §§ 226(e) and 1174.5, including the greater of all actual
11 damages or fifty dollars (\$50) per employee for the initial pay period in which the violation
12 occurred and one hundred dollars (\$100) per employee for each violation in a subsequent pay
13 period;

14 • Whether Defendants violated California meal and rest period provisions,
15 Cal. Wage Order No. 4-2001, Cal. Labor Code §§ 218.5, 226.7, and 512;

16 • Whether Defendants violated California's unfair competition law, Cal. Bus.
17 & Prof. Code §§ 17200 et seq.;

18 • Whether Defendants established a fluctuating workweek-agreement with
19 each Plaintiff and others similarly situated during the relevant time periods at issue;

20 • Whether the applicable statute of limitations, including 29 U.S.C. § 255,
21 bars Plaintiffs' claims in whole or in part;

22 • Whether Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part by the *de minimis*
23 doctrine;

24 • Whether Plaintiffs may properly pursue an FLSA opt-in collective action
25 together with a Rule 23 opt-out class action;

26 • Whether the Court has jurisdiction under the Class Action Fairness Act;

27 • Whether the Court should exercise supplemental jurisdiction under 28 USC
28 Section 1367;

1 • Whether Plaintiffs' claims are proper for treatment as a class and/or
2 collective action.

3
4 **4. Motions**

5 Prior and Pending Motions, Current Status:

6 • Plaintiffs' Motions for Leave to Appear in Pro Hac Vice (Docket ## 6-8).
7 Motions granted (Doc. ## 9-11).

8 • Administrative Motion to Consider Whether Cases Should Be Related
9 Pursuant to Local Rule 3-12 (Doc. # 23). Motion granted (Doc. # 28).

10 • Plaintiffs' Motion to Amend Complaint (Doc. # 31). Motion granted (Doc.
11 # 54).

12 • Plaintiffs' Motion for Conditional Collective Action Certification Under
13 FLSA , 29 U.S.C. 216(b), and for Court-approved Notice of FLSA Claims (Doc. #35). Motion
14 granted (Doc. # 54).

15 • Plaintiffs' Motion to Strike Docket/Document #30, Part 2 (Doc. # 46).
16 Motion granted (Doc. # 52).

17
18 Anticipated Motions:

19 • Potential motion pursuant to FRCP Rule 12;
20 • Discovery Motions/Motions to Compel;
21 • Defendants' Motion(s) for Decertification;
22 • Plaintiffs' Motion(s) to Certify the proposed California Class pursuant to
23 Fed. R. Civ. P. 23;

- 24 • Motions for Summary Judgment or Partial Summary Judgment; and
25 • Pre-Trial Motion Practice.

26
27 **5. Amendment of Pleadings**

28 Plaintiffs expect that additional individuals will join the FLSA collective action by

1 filing Consent to Join forms. Additionally, Plaintiffs may seek leave to further amend the
2 Complaint, if necessary. Plaintiffs propose January 1, 2009 as the deadline for joining other
3 parties and amending the pleadings. Plaintiffs clarify herein that the January 1, 2009 deadline
4 shall not relate to or prevent putative collective action class members or "opt-in" plaintiffs from
5 opting in to this litigation prior to the issuance of Court-authorized notice of collective action to
6 putative members and the expiration of a Court-prescribed deadline for acceptance of opt-in
7 members of a putative collective action against Defendants. Defendants propose October 16,
8 2008, as the deadline for joining other parties and amending the pleadings.
9

10 **6. Evidence Preservation**

11 Plaintiffs understand their duty to preserve records, including paper and electronic
12 copies, and have taken steps to preserve all documents potentially relevant to this action in their
13 possession.
14

15 Defendants have communicated to certain of their employees to preserve evidence
16 relating to Plaintiffs' employment with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
17

18 **7. Disclosures**

19 The parties have not exchanged initial disclosures. Plaintiffs request that the
20 Court order the exchange of Rule 26(a) reports in September 2008. Defendants request that the
21 Court order the exchange of Rule 26(a) reports by October 16, 2008, 30 days from the date of the
22 Case Management Conference.

23 **8. Discovery**

24 The parties have served the following discovery to date:

- 25 • Plaintiffs' First Set of Requests for Production of Documents was served
26 on September 27, 2007;
 - 27 • Plaintiffs' First Set of Interrogatories was served on September 27, 2007;
- 28

1 • Plaintiffs' Notice of Videotaped Corporate Deposition pursuant to Fed. R.
2 Civ. P. 30(b)(6) was served on Defendants on August 29, 2008. The Corporate Deposition is
3 currently scheduled for September 17, 2008;

4 • Defendants' Responses to Plaintiffs' First Set of Requests for Production
5 of Documents was served on August 19, 2008;

6 • Defendants' Responses to Plaintiffs' First Set of Interrogatories was served
7 on August 19, 2008;

8 • Defendants' Special Interrogatories to Opt-In Plaintiff Susette Walsh were
9 served on August 22, 2008;

10 • Defendants' Request for Production of Documents to Opt-In Plaintiff
11 Susette Walsh were served on August 22, 2008;

12 • Plaintiffs' Responses to Defendants' Special Interrogatories and Request
13 for Production of Documents are not due yet;

14 • Defendants' Special Interrogatories to Opt-In Plaintiff Randal Scott were
15 served on September 2, 2008;

16 • Defendants' Request for Production of Documents to Opt-In Plaintiff
17 Randal Scott were served on September 2, 2008;

18 • Plaintiffs' Responses to Defendants' Special Interrogatories and Request
19 for Production of Documents are not due yet;

20 • Defendants' Special Interrogatories to Opt-In Plaintiff Kevin Casner were
21 served on September 2, 2008;

22 • Defendants' Request for Production of Documents to Opt-In Plaintiff
23 Kevin Casner were served on September 2, 2008;

24 • Plaintiffs' Responses to Defendants' Special Interrogatories and Request
25 for Production of Documents are not due yet;

26 • Defendants' Special Interrogatories to Opt-In Plaintiff Patrick Mochelle
27 were served on September 2, 2008;
28

1 • Defendants' Request for Production of Documents to Opt-In Plaintiff
 2 Patrick Mochelle were served on September 2, 2008;

3 • Plaintiffs' Responses to Defendants' Special Interrogatories and Request
 4 for Production of Documents are not due yet.

5 The scope of discovery and discovery plan:

6 Plaintiffs do not believe that discovery should be significantly limited at this stage
 7 of the proceedings. Plaintiffs request the following:

- 8 1. 100 Interrogatories
- 9 2. No Limits Document requests
- 10 3. No Limits Factual depositions (Plaintiff anticipates 20-30)
- 11 4. No Limits Requests for admissions
- 12 5. Not anticipated Rule 35 medical examinations
- 13 6. other.

12 Defendants request the following:

- 13 1. Per Rule 33 Interrogatories
- 14 2. No Limits Document requests
- 15 3. No Limits Factual depositions (Plaintiff anticipates 20-30)
- 16 4. No Limits Requests for admissions
- 17 5. Not anticipated Rule 35 medical examinations
- 18 6. other.

17 The parties recommend that the Court establish the following discovery deadlines:

- 18 1. August 3, 2009 Deadline for completion of non-expert discovery, including
 19 service and response to interrogatories, document requests, requests for admission
 20 and scheduling of factual depositions;
- 21 2. N/A Deadline for completion of all Rule 35 medical examinations.

22 The parties anticipate that they will require expert witnesses at time of trial and recommend the
 23 following:

- 24 1. Plaintiffs anticipate calling 2-3 experts: to testify concerning damages, FLSA
 25 compliance, and California wage and hour law compliance.
- 26 2. Defendants anticipate calling 2 experts.
- 27 3. As to exemption claims, because Defendants bear the burden of proof on liability,
 28 Defendants' expert reports should be submitted on July 30, 2009, Plaintiffs' expert
 reports should be submitted on September 1, 2009 and rebuttal expert reports
 should be submitted on September 21, 2009. Plaintiffs further agree that
 Defendants will present evidence first at trial regarding liability with respect to the

exemption issue. As to the claims on which Plaintiffs has the burden of proof, Plaintiffs' expert reports should be submitted on July 30, 2009, Defendants' expert reports should be submitted on September 1, 2009, and rebuttal expert reports should be submitted in September 21, 2009.

4. Expert depositions should be completed between September 21, 2009 and October 21, 2009.

Plaintiffs recommend that the motions be filed and served on or before the following date:

1. Non-dispositive motions: Heard on or before September 1, 2009.
2. Dispositive motions: Heard on or before September 1, 2009.

Defendants recommend that all motions be heard on or before November 2, 2009.

The parties agree that the case will be ready for trial on or after December 1, 2009.

Plaintiffs anticipate that the trial may be 5-7 days. Defendants estimate that the trial will be 20-30 days. A final pretrial conference should be held on or before November 2, 2009.

9. Class Actions

Plaintiffs allege a nationwide collective action ("opt-in") under the FLSA, and a California state law class ("opt out") under Federal Rule Civil Procedure 23. Plaintiffs have already filed their motion for conditional certification of a collective action which the Court granted. The parties' suggestion for the deadline by which Plaintiffs must file a class certification motion is May 1, 2009. Defendants request that the Court set a briefing schedule wherein Defendants will have 45 days to file their opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion. Plaintiffs oppose Defendants' request at this time.

10. Related Cases

On June 11, 2008, the Court issued an Order finding that *Lewis et al v. Wells Fargo & Co.*, 08-cv-02670 JCS, is related (Doc # 28). The parties are unaware of any other related cases. Defendants contend that the *Lewis* case is not related to this case.

11. Relief

Plaintiffs seek, on behalf of themselves and all members of the FLSA Employee Class, (1) designation of this action as a collective action on behalf of the proposed FLSA

1 Employee Class and prompt issuance of notice pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b); (2) designation of
2 the Named Plaintiffs as representatives of the FLSA Employees; (3) declarations of the rights and
3 obligations of the parties as prayed for in the Amended Complaint; (4) an award of damages,
4 including liquidated damages, to be paid by Defendants; (5) costs of the action incurred herein,
5 including expert fees; (6) attorneys' fees, including fees pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216; (7) pre- and
6 post-judgment interest, as provided by law; and (8) such injunctive relief and equitable relief as
7 the Court may deem just and proper.

9 Plaintiff Friedman seeks, on behalf of himself and members of the California
10 Class, (1) designation of this action as a class action on behalf of the California Class; (2)
11 designation of Plaintiff Friedman as a representative of the California Class; (3) a declaratory
12 judgment that the practices complained of in the Amended Complaint are unlawful under
13 California law; (4) appropriate equitable and injunctive relief to remedy Defendants' violations of
14 California law, including but not necessarily limited to an order enjoining Defendants from
15 continuing its unlawful practices; (5) appropriate statutory penalties; (6) damages and restitution,
16 including waiting time penalties, meal and rest break violation payments, record-keeping
17 penalties, and overtime wages to be paid by Defendants according to proof; (7) costs of the action
18 incurred herein, including expert fees; (8) attorneys' fees and costs of suit, including expert fees;
19 (9) pre- and post-judgment interest, as provided by law; and (10) any other and further relief the
20 Court may deem just or equitable.

23 Plaintiff has no documents to support a monetary calculation at this time.
24 Damages calculations will be based upon employment records and expert testimony. Upon
25 information and belief, employment records and other documents necessary to formulate a
26 damages calculation are in Defendants' possession. Defendants have not yet produced all the
27 discovery necessary to formulate a damages calculation. Discovery continues.

1 **12. Settlement and ADR**

2 The parties have attempted to privately mediate the case. On June 18, 2008, the
3 parties participated in a full-day mediation session in Toluca Lake, California. The session was
4 mediated by Gig Kyriacou and included counsel for Plaintiffs and Defendants, as well as Wells
5 Fargo representatives.

6
7 **13. Consent To Magistrate Judge For All Purposes**

8 The parties have not agreed to consent to jurisdiction by a Magistrate Judge
9 pursuant to Title 28, USC § 636(c) at this time.

10 **14. Other References**

11 The parties agree that the case is not suitable for reference to binding arbitration, a
12 special master, or the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation.

13 **15. Narrowing of Issues**

14 The parties anticipate that there may be issues that can be narrowed by agreement or by
15 motion as the case progresses. There are none at this time. The parties do not wish to bifurcate
16 issues, claims, or defenses at this time.

17
18 **16. Expedited Schedule**

19 The parties do not request an expedited schedule at this time.

20 **17. Scheduling**

21 See number 8 above.

22 **18. Trial**

23 Plaintiffs have demanded a jury trial. Until the Court rules on Plaintiffs'
24 anticipated motion for Class Certification and any motions for summary judgment or partial
25 summary judgment, the scope of the trial cannot be determined. Accordingly, it is premature to
26 discuss the expected length of the trial at present.
27
28

1 **19. Disclosure of Non-Party Interested Entities or Persons**

2 Plaintiffs assert that, other than Plaintiffs' attorneys and their respective law firms,
3 no persons, firms, partnerships, corporations, or other entities known by him have either (i) a
4 financial interest in the subject matter in controversy or in a party to the proceeding; or (ii) any
5 other kind of interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the proceeding.

6 Defendant submitted a "Certification of Interested Parties" pursuant to Civil L.R.
7 3-16 with its Answer (Doc. # 12). Therein, Defendant asserts that the following list of persons,
8 associations of persons, firms, partnerships, corporations or other entities have either (i) a
9 financial interest in the subject matter in controversy or in a party to the proceeding; or (ii) any
10 other kind of interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the proceeding:
11

- 12 (1) Monte Russell, Plaintiff,
13 (2) Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Defendant, and
14 (3) Wells Fargo & Company, Defendant and parent of Defendant Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

15 **20. Other Matters**

16 The parties have no other matters to bring before the Court at this time.
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

1
2 Dated: September 9, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

3 AUDET & PARTNERS, LLP

4
5 /s/ William M. Audet

6 William M. Audet (California State Bar No. 117456)

7 Adel Nadji (California State Bar No. 232599)

221 Main Street, Suite 1460

8 San Francisco, California 94105

ANadji@audetlaw.com

9 Telephone: (415) 568-2555

10 Facsimile: (415) 568-2556

11 LARSON • KING, LLP

T. Joseph Snodgrass (*Pro Hac Vice*)

12 Kelly A. Swanson (*Pro Hac Vice*)

2800 Wells Fargo Place

13 30 East 7th Street

St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

14 Telephone: (651) 312-6500

15 Facsimile: (651) 312-6619

16 Attorneys for Plaintiffs MONTE RUSSELL and

DANIEL FRIEDMAN and Putative Collective and Class

17 Action Plaintiffs

18 ---

19 HODEL BRIGGS WINTER, LLP

20
21 /s/ Glenn L. Briggs

22 Glenn L. Briggs (California State Bar No. 174497)

23 Theresa A. Kading (California State Bar No. 211469)

8105 Irvine Center Drive, Suite 1400

24 Irvine, CA 92618

25 Telephone: (949) 450-8040

Facsimile: (949) 450-8033

26 Attorneys for Defendant WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.

27
28 LK#1238733